

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 IO-13 DODE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00
OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 ICA-11
COME-00 BIB-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /063 W
-----058956 101222Z /16

R 100932Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8240
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
USLO RIYADH

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, WARC, ITU, EG, IR, MO, SA
SUBJ: PREPARATION FOR 1979 WARC - SECOND REPORT OF
VISITS

REF: A. STATE 83133, B. STATE 101560

1. FOLLOWING IS SENT BY SHRUM (EB/TD) OF VISITING WARC TEAM. HUFFCUTT (EB/TD) IS REQUESTED TO PASS TO PROBST, CUTTS AND SOLOMON (DOD).
2. THE MID-EAST WARC TEAM, CONSISTING OF SHRUM, URBANY (NTIA), COOK (DOD), AND TYCZ (FCC), COMPLETED TWO VISITS DURINGTHE SECOND WEEK OF THE TRIP. DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD IN RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA ON APRIL 30 AND MAY 1, AND IN TEHRAN, IRAN ON MAY 3 AND 4. AS IN PREVIOUS COUNTRIES, THE TEAM IDENTIFIED AND MET WITH KEY OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR WARC PREPARATIONS. THE SAUDIS HAD NOT STARTED FORMAL PREPARATION OR GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO THE

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ISSUES, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL ITU EXPERTS SERVING AS ADVISORS TO THE PTT OFFERED SIGNIFICANT COMMENTS. CONTRARY TO NEARLY ALL COUNTRIES VISITED THUS FAR, THE IRANIANS HAVE UNDERTAKEN AN IMPRESSIVE PROGRAM TO PREPARE FOR ALL ISSUES TO BE TREATED AT THE WARC. THIS EFFORT INCLUDES PARTICIPATION BY ALL AFFECTED RADIO USERS AND AGENCIES IN IRAN. THE U.S. WILL FIND

THE IRANIAN DELEGATION TO BE VERY WELL PREPARED TECHNICALLY, OPERATIONALLY AND POLITICALLY. IN SUMMARY THE DISCUSSIONS IN BOTH COUNTRIES WERE CONSIDERED TO BE VERY WORTHWHILE, AND THE OVERALL FOUR-COUNTRY TRIP HAS BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. A DETAILED REPORT HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE TEAM FOR APPROPRIATE DISTRIBUTION.

3. SAUDI ARABIA: SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE TEAM MET ON APRIL 30 WITH IBRAHIM AHMED OBAID, DEPUTY MINISTER OF PTT, ABDUL RAHMAN DAGHISTANI, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, AND KEY ADVISORS FOR A BRIEF PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION. MORE DETAILED TALKS WERE HELD WITH DAGHISTANI AND ADVISORS ON MAY 1. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE WERE NO REPRESENTATIVES ON THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION (MININFO). SEVERAL OFFICERS OF THE EMBASSY LIAISON OFFICE IN RIYADH WERE BRIEFED ON THE WARC DURING THE TWO-DAY VISIT. MAJOR POINTS PICKED UP IN RIYADH ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) THERE WAS GENERAL CONCERN ABOUT THE EXISTING FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE CONCEPT IN THE REGULATIONS. AS A RESULT DAGHISTANI SUGGESTED THAT A NEW ITU REGION FOURBE ESTABLISHED, CONSISTING OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. IN THEIR VIEW THIS WOULD GIVE THE LDGS PRESENTLY SUBMERGED IN REGION 1 MORE FLEXIBILITY AND MAKE MORE FREQUENCIES AVAILABLE TO THEM TO MEET THEIR RAPIDLY EXPANDING REQUIRMENTS. (B) CONCERNING THE GENERAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, IT WAS POINTED OUT TO THE TEAM THAT THEIR RELIANCE ON HF FOR DOMESTIC FIXED SERVICES WAS DUE NOT ONLY TO ECONOMIC REASONS, BUT ALSO TO A GENERAL LACK OF FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE. THERE IS A RELUCTANCE TO MOVE TO VHF AND UHF SYSTEMS BECAUSE OF MORE COMPLEX TECHNICAL AND SYSTEM MANAGMENT CONSIDERATIONS. VERY FEW COUNTRIES HAVE MONITORING AND EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION CAPABILITY, FOR EXAMPLE, WHICH ARE NECESSARY FOR EFFICIENT AND INTERFERENCE-FREE OPERATION. DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER CONCLUDED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF ITU AND/OR REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING FREQUENCY MANAGMEMENT EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE AS A MEANS OF OBTAINING BETTER FREQUENCY UTILIZATION IN THE FUTURE.

(C) SAUDI REPRESENTATIVES SUGGESTED THAT THE WARC ADOPTA RESOLUTION CALLING ON DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO USE MORE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND HIGHER FREQUENCY BANDS AS A WAY OF PROVIDING MORE FREQUENCIES FOR THE RAPIDLY INCREASING REQUIRMENTS OF LDGS. THE TEAM CONSIDERS THIS IDEA TO BE WORTHY OF CONSIDERATION FOR THE U.S. PROPOSALS, SINCE IT WOULD HELP TO EMPHASIZE OUR OBJECTIVE OF ACCOMMODATING THE FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS OF ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. OF COURSE, THE TIMING AND

PRESENTATION OF SUCH A PRINCIPLE NEEDS CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT.

4. IRAN: THE TEAM MET ON MAY 3 WITH AMINOLLAH HAKIMIAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, PTT, HIS DEPUTY SIAMAK NADIMI, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM PTT, NATIONAL IRANIAN RADIO AND TELEVISION (NIRT) (MININFO), TELE-COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF IRAN (TCI), AIR FORCE, THE JOINT MILITARY STAFF (J6), AND THE CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (CAO). THE MEETING WAS ALSO WELL ATTENDED BY ADVISORS FROM THE U.S.-CONSULTING FRIM AMERICAN BELL INTERNATIONAL INC.(ABII), WHICH IS PROVIDING FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT TO THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT (SEE MORE BELOW). ABII REPRESENTATIVES

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DID MOT OF THE TALKING FOR THE IRANIAN SIDE, EXCEPT FOR NIRT/BROADCASTING MATTERS. ON MAY 4 THE TEAM MET WITH PLANNING AND ENGINEERING STAFF OF THE NIRT. THE KEY SPOKESMEN FOR NIRT WERE KAVOUSS ARASTEH, MANAGER FOR SOUND BROADCAST PLANNING AND NIRT REPRESENTATIVE TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND

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MEHDI KIAN, CHIEF, TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT. THE TEAM MET WITH AND BRIEFED INTERESTED EMBOFFS ON MAY 4. SEVERAL OF THE KEY ITEMS LEARNED IN TEHRAN ARE AS FOLLOWS: (A) ABII IS PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL CONSULTING SUPPORT TO THE PTT, MILITARY AND POSSIBLY OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF 142 MILLION DOLLARS IN FY-1978 AND APPROXIMATELY ONE BILLION DOLLARS TOTAL OVER SEVERAL YEARS. ITS EFFECT IN THE FREQUENCY MANAGEMENT AREA IS IMPRESSIVE, TO SAY THE LEAST. IRAN IS RAPIDLY MOVING TOWARD A MODERN U.S.-TYPE CAPABILITY, INCLUDING AUTOMATED FREQUENCY RECORDS, SOPHISTICATED MONITORING, AND EMC ANALYSIS. FOR THE PAST FIVE MONTHS THEY HAVE HELD BI-WEEKLY MEETINGS TO DISCUSS WARC ISSUES, VERY SIMILAR TO IRAC AD HOC 144. DETAILED REGULATIONS AND A NATIONAL ALLOCATION TABLE HAVE BEEN DRAFTED. ALTHOUGH FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE BY THE PTT AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ABII CLEARLY HAS A STRONG INFLUENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF IRANIAN ATTITUDES, POLICY AND PROCEDURE

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IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS MATTERS. (B) ALL ELEMENTS OF THE IRANIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE ARE ACTIVE IN REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND WILL INCREASE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE FUTURE. FOR EXAMPLE, HAKIMIAN IS ATTENDING THE ADMIN COUNCIL THIS YEAR FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND HE OR HIS DEPUTY WILL ATTEND THE CCIR PLENARY IN KYOTO. THE IRANIANS PLAN TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTS TO THE CCIR SPM AND TO SEND AT LEAST 20 REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING HAKIMIAN, BRIGADIER GENERAL MORADKHANI OF THE AIR FORCE, AND 10 PERSONS FOR NIRT. NIRT IS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN THE ABU, EBU, CCIR, AS WELL AS OTHER REGIONAL DISCUSSIONS. IN SUMMARY IT APPEARS OBVIOUS THAT IRAN WILL TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE WARC, BASED ON WELL-DEFINED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND SOLID TECHNICAL SUPPORT. (C) NIRT PRESENTED A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC VIEWS AND QUESTIONS TO THE TEAM, MANY OF WHICH ARE UNDER ACTIVE CONSIDERATION IN THE VARIOUS BROADCASTING UNIONS. THESE INCLUDED A PROPOSAL BY REGION 3 COUNTRIES TO ADD AN ALLOCATION FOR LOW FREQUENCY (LONG WAVE) BROADCASTING, THE NEED TO EXPAND HF BROADCAST ALLOCATIONS FOR BOTH DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICES, A DESIRE TO ADD BROADCASTING-SATELLITE ALLOCATION (SOUND ONLY) IN THE 500 TO 1000 MHZ BAND (PREFERABLY AROUND 900 MHZ) AND A DESIRE TO ADD FIXED-SATELLITE ALLOCATION TO THE 14.5 - 15.0 GHZ BAND FOR FEEDER LINKS TO THE BROADCAST SATELLITES. (D) IRAN HAS ALREADY ADVANCE PUBLISHED

THEIR ZOREH DOMESTIC SATELLITE SYSTEM. BOTH TELECOM-MUNICATIONS AND BROADCAST SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE 11 TO 14 GHZ BANDS, WITH A PROJECTED LAUNCH DATE IN THE 1982-1983 TIME FRAME. THEREFORE, THEY HAVE A KEEN INTEREST IN ALLOCATION DECISIONS IN THAT PART OF THE SPECTRUM.

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5. MISCELLANEOUS: AS IN THE EARLIER COUNTREIS ON THIS TRIP, THE WARC TEAM RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT AND INTEREST FROM BOTH POST CONCERNED. THE TEAM CONSIDERS THIS TRIP AS BEING EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL AND WORTHWHILE. IN EACH CASE THE COUNTRIES VISITED ARE FRIENDLY AND RECEPTIVE TO U.S. INTERESTS. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY HAVE A LEADING POSITION AND MODERATING INFLUENCE AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT EACH WILL PROVIDE A UNIQUE LINK BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE THIRD WORLD IN OUR PREPARATIONS FOR THE WARC AND WILL PROVE TO BE EVALUABLE POINTS OF CONTACT DURING THE CONFERENCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN04445
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780198-0433
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780572/aaaacjae.tel
Line Count: 251
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d43330a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 83133, 78 STATE 101560
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2730357
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATION FOR 1979 WARC - SECOND REPORT OF VISITS
TAGS: ETEL, OTRA, EG, IR, MO, SA, ITU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d43330a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014